

# DrugFAQs

## Percocet/Tylox

*Generic name: Oxycodone*

*hydrochloride, Acetaminophen,*

*Brand names: Endocet, Roxicet, Tylox,  
Percocet*

### Why is Percocet prescribed?

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Percocet, a narcotic analgesic, is used to treat moderate to moderately severe pain. It contains two drugs--acetaminophen and oxycodone. Acetaminophen is used to reduce both pain and fever. Oxycodone, a narcotic analgesic, is used for its calming effect and for pain.

### Most important fact about Percocet

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Percocet contains a narcotic and, even if taken only in prescribed amounts, can cause physical and psychological dependence when taken for a long time.

### How should you take Percocet?

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Percocet may be taken with meals or with milk.

--*If you miss a dose...* If you take Percocet on a regular schedule, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the one you missed and go back to your regular schedule. Never take 2 doses at once.

--*Storage instructions...* Store at room temperature.

### What side effects may occur?

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Side effects cannot be anticipated. If any develop or change in intensity, inform your doctor as soon as possible. Only your doctor can determine if it is safe for you to continue taking Percocet.

- *More common side effects may include:*  
Dizziness, light-headedness, nausea, sedation, vomiting

You may be able to alleviate some of these side effects by lying down.

## Why should Percocet not be prescribed?

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You should not use Percocet if you are sensitive to either acetaminophen or oxycodone.

## Special warnings about Percocet

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You should take Percocet cautiously and according to your doctor's instructions, as you would take any medication containing a narcotic. If you have ever had a problem with alcohol addiction, make sure your doctor is aware of it. If you have experienced a head injury, consult your doctor before taking Percocet. The effects of Percocet may be stronger for people with head injuries, and using it may delay recovery. If you have stomach problems, such as an ulcer, check with your doctor before taking Percocet. Percocet may hide the symptoms of stomach problems, making them difficult to diagnose and treat. If you have ever had liver, kidney, thyroid gland, or Addison's disease (a disease of the adrenal glands), difficulty urinating, or an enlarged prostate, consult your doctor before taking Percocet. Elderly people or those in a weakened condition should take Percocet cautiously. This drug may impair your ability to drive a car or operate potentially dangerous machinery. Do not participate in any activities that require full alertness if you are unsure about the drug's effect on you.

## Possible food and drug interactions when taking Percocet

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Alcohol may increase the sedative effects of Percocet. You should not take Percocet with alcohol. If Percocet is taken with certain other drugs, the effects of either could be increased, decreased, or altered. It is especially important to check with your doctor before combining Percocet with the following:

Antispasmodic drugs such as Cogentin, Bentyl, and Donnatal  
Major tranquilizers such as Thorazine and Mellaril  
Other narcotic painkillers such as Darvon and Demerol  
Sedatives such as phenobarbital and Seconal  
Tranquilizers such as Xanax and Valium

## Special information if you are pregnant or breastfeeding

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It is not known whether Percocet can injure a developing baby or affect a woman's reproductive capacity. Using any medication that contains a narcotic during pregnancy may cause physical addiction for your newborn baby. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, inform your doctor immediately. As with other narcotic painkillers, taking Percocet shortly before delivery (especially at higher dosages) may cause some degree of impaired breathing in the mother and newborn. It is not known whether Percocet appears in breast milk, possibly harming a nursing infant. If you are breastfeeding use Percocet only under a doctor's directions.

## Recommended dosage

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### ADULTS

The usual dose is 1 to 2 tablets of the lowest strength (2.5 milligrams oxycodone/325 milligrams acetaminophen) every 6 hours. Doctors sometimes prescribe a higher dose if necessary. The total daily dose of acetaminophen should not exceed 4 grams. The maximum daily dose recommended for each strength of Percocet (oxycodone/acetaminophen) is as follows:

2.5 milligrams/325 milligrams: 12 tablets

5 milligrams/325 milligrams: 12 tablets

7.5 milligrams/500 milligrams: 8 tablets

10 milligrams/650 milligrams: 6 tablets

### CHILDREN

The safety and effectiveness of Percocet have not been established in children.

## Overdosage

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A severe overdose of Percocet can be fatal. If you suspect an overdose, seek medical help immediately.

- *Symptoms of Percocet overdose may include:*  
Bluish skin, eyes or skin with yellow tone, cold and clammy skin, decreased or irregular breathing (ceasing in severe overdose), extreme sleepiness progressing to stupor or coma, heart attack, low blood

pressure, muscle weakness, nausea, slow heartbeat, sweating, vague  
bodily discomfort, vomiting